

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 4

Introduced by Senator Burton

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alquist, Aroner, Brown, Caldera, Cardoza, Escutia, Figueroa, Havice, Hertzberg, Honda, Keeley, Knox, Kuehl, Kuykendall, Mazzoni, Migden, Murray, Napolitano, Ortiz, Perata, Scott, Shelley, Strom-Martin, Sweeney, Thomson, Torlakson, Villaraigosa, Vincent, Washington, Wayne and Wildman)

December 20, 1996

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4—Relative to Medi-Cal program expenses.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 4, as introduced, Burton. Medi-Cal: smoking-related diseases.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, administered by the State Department of Health Services, under which qualified low-income persons are provided with health care services.

This measure would request the Attorney General to bring suit against all tobacco companies for reimbursement for costs incurred by the Medi-Cal program due to smoking-related diseases.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The State of California has incurred
2 substantial costs in the implementation of the Medi-Cal

1 program for the treatment of tobacco-related diseases;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, One member of the tobacco industry has
4 recently agreed to make payments to other states and to
5 limit future advertising activities in settlement of suits
6 brought by those states to seek reimbursement of costs
7 incurred by those states for the treatment of
8 smoking-related diseases; and

9 WHEREAS, The recent agreement of one member of
10 the tobacco industry and the activities attributed to some
11 members of the tobacco industry can only lead to the
12 conclusion that there is sufficient basis on which to take
13 legal action to seek compensation from the tobacco
14 industry for the cost of treating those illnesses for which
15 the tobacco industry must at least share in the
16 responsibility; now, therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the*
18 *Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Attorney General
19 is requested to bring suit against all tobacco companies for
20 reimbursement for costs incurred by the state's Medi-Cal
21 program due to smoking-related diseases; and be it
22 further

23 *Resolved,* That the President of the Senate transmit
24 copies of this resolution to the Attorney General.

